

and shows a desire to please the Roman Curia; on the other hand, prelates are forbidden to exact feudal aids except for their consecration, upon summons to a Roman Synod, and when they serve in the royal army,

The feudal clauses, though few, are of importance. The King, himself a Norman and of the feudal caste, forbids that any one should retain or take upon him knighthood unless he be of knightly family. By the assise *de rebus regalibus* those who hold royal regalia are forbidden to alienate, sell, or grant them. A solemn *monitio generalis* warns all princes, counts, prelates, and others who have authority over citizens, townsmen, and villagers to treat them with humanity, in particular to demand from them only such aids and dues as are reasonable and just. In the event of the King's arrival in any district, the barons may exact from their tenants part of the *corredum* or "sustenance" which then becomes due to the royal train, but the aid which they demand must be according to the resources of their subjects,

The Assises are thus, as it were, a rough sketch of the royal intention; they show Roger determined to keep a firm hold on his feudal vassals,

favouring and ordering the Church,
recommending justice to the non-feudal classes,
suppressing crime, emphasising the need of power
and justice,
The last Assise of all is significant of a
King who
aspired to be the "Mirror of Justice"¹: it
decrees
that if a judge sentences to death for
a bribe he